

HO-1097/BA-1220 Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge B. & O. Railroad over Patapsco River and Ilchester Road Private

Description:

The Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge has a single-span, six-panel Pratt through truss over the river, and it is set on quarry-faced ashlar piers. The bridge has riveted lattice box girders for the central posts and diagonal bracing of the two center panels, with riveted solid box girders for the top chord and inclined end posts. The bottom chords, hip verticals, and other diagonal bracing are steel rods with pin connections. There are lattice sway braces at the top of the posts and lattice top lateral bracing between them. The bridge has four stringers to support a double track, but is now only single-tracked. There is a plate girder pony truss west of the Pratt through truss, over Ilchester road, with a quarry-faced ashlar stone retaining wall at the west end and the remains of a timber raised siding on the north side of the western approach that was probably designed as a coal unloading ramp. The west face of the tunnel opening is brick with a round-arched opening that has brick voussoirs and a quarry-faced stone keystone. Above the arch is a brick panel with "19 - ILCHESTER - 03" in raised bricks.

Significance:



The Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge replaces the stone Patterson Viaduct, which was built in 1830 and destroyed by the flood of 1868. Originally, a metal Bollman Truss bridge was built on the surviving abutments. At the turn of the twentieth century the B. & O. Railroad set about to remove problems from their main line, including straightening tight turns as much as possible. One of these problem areas was the crossing of the Patapsco River at Ilchester. Some of these improvements were in progress by early 1901, but the changes at Ilchester were delayed. These changes included the construction of a tunnel on the Baltimore County side of the river, the west end of which opens onto the bridge, and a new approach to the bridge on the Howard County side of the river. The American Bridge Company of New York was the builder of the Ilchester span. It is not known when the tunnel was completed, but the brick facing of the western opening has the date 1903.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name of I	roperty	(indicate preferred na	ame)			
historic	Ilchester B. & O.	Railroad Bridge				
other						
2. Location						
street and number	B. & O. Railroad	over Patapsco River and Ile	chester Road		_ '	not for publication
city, town	Ilchester					vicinity
county	Howard					
3. Owner of	Property	(give names and mailing	addresses of all	owners)		
name	CSX Transportati	ion, Inc.				
street and number					telephone	
city, town	Jacksonville		state FL		zip code	
Contr Contr Deter Deter	buting Resource in buting Resource in mined Eligible for th mined Ineligible for ded by HABS/HAEI ic Structure Report	Additional Data National Register District Local Historic District ne National Register/Marylar the National Register/Maryl R or Research Report at MHT	nd Register and Register			
	4ian					
6. Classifica	ttion					





Condition

	_excellent	deteriorated
X	_ good	ruins
	fair	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge has a single-span, six-panel Pratt through truss over the river, and it is set on quarry-faced ashlar piers. The bridge has riveted lattice box girders for the central posts and diagonal bracing of the two center panels, with riveted solid box girders for the top chord and inclined end posts. The bottom chords, hip verticals, and other diagonal bracing are steel rods with pin connections. There are lattice sway braces at the top of the posts and lattice top lateral bracing between them. The bridge has four stringers to support a double track, but is now only single-tracked.

There is a plate girder pony truss west of the Pratt through truss, over Ilchester road, with a quarry-faced ashlar stone retaining wall at the west end and the remains of a timber raised siding on the north side of the western approach that was probably designed as a coal unloading ramp.



The west face of the tunnel opening is brick with a round-arched opening that has brick voussoirs and a quarry-faced stone keystone. Above the arch is a brick panel with "19 - ILCHESTER - 03" in raised bricks.

8. Signific	ance			Inventory No. HO-1097/BA-122
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and j	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government e religion science social history X transportation other:
Specific dates	N/A		Architect/Builder Am	erican Bridge Co.
Construction da	ates 1903			
Evaluation for:				
	National Register		Maryland Register	X not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary:

The Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge replaces the stone Patterson Viaduct, which was built in 1830 and destroyed by the flood of 1868. Originally, a metal Bollman Truss bridge was built on the surviving abutments. At the turn of the twentieth century the B. & O. Railroad set about to remove problems from their main line, including straightening tight turns as much as possible. One of these problem areas was the crossing of the Patapsco River at Ilchester. Some of these improvements were in progress by early 1901, but the changes at Ilchester were delayed. These changes included the construction of a tunnel on the Baltimore County side of the river, the west end of which opens onto the bridge, and a new approach to the bridge on the Howard County side of the river. The American Bridge Company of New York was the builder of the Ilchester span. It is not known when the tunnel was completed, but the brick facing of the western opening has the date 1903.

Significance:

The Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge replaces the stone Patterson Viaduct, which was built in 1830 and destroyed by the flood of 1868. Originally, a metal Bollman Truss bridge was built on the surviving abutments, and it can be seen in an engraving in poet William Cullen Bryant's *Picturesque America*, published in two volumes between 1872 and 1874. At the turn of the twentieth century the B. & O. Railroad set about to remove problems from their main line, including straightening tight turns as much as possible. One of the causes of these problems was the ever-growing length of railroad cars being used, which required more gentle curves or the cars would derail. One of these problem areas was the crossing of the Patapsco River at Ilchester. The changes, and their beneficial effects, were described by the *Baltimore Sun*:



¹ Joetta Cramm, Howard County: A Pictorial History rev. ed. (Virginia Beach, VA: The Donning Company, 2004), p. 98.

Inventory No. HO-1097/BA-1220

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

What is known as the Ilchester improvement is the building of a new line 4,500 feet long from a point a short distance west of Orange Grove to a point a short distance west of Ilchester, and the abandoning of the present line between these points. The new line will save 1,000 feet in distance. The present curves have a radius of 375 feet, while on the new line the curve radius will be 2,865 feet and the major portion of the line on tangent. A double-track tunnel 1,400 feet long is part of the improvement.²

Some of these improvements were in progress by early 1901, but the changes at Ilchester were delayed due to problems in acquiring the necessary new right-of-way. These changes included the construction of a tunnel on the Baltimore County side of the river, the west end of which opens onto the bridge, and a new approach to the bridge on the Howard County side of the river. It was expected in April 1901 that 150 men would be employed on the tunnel. With the men working night and day, it was expected to take 15 months to complete all of the work at Ilchester. In May 1902 the *Baltimore Sun* reported:

The new tunnels were opened in narrow 10 or 12 foot shafts, only sufficient for elbow room for the drillers. An explosive of 60 per cent glycerine [sic], the highest power available, was used in blasting. Automatic steam and compressed-air drills were employed to bore the holes. In the Ilchester borings, in some places 100 feet below the top of the hill, two sets of drills were put to work, one at each end. The two openings came together the other day with wonderful precision, without the deviation of an inch sideways or up or down. . . .

Altogether there are cuts and fills of half a mile at Ilchester A new bridge at Ilchester is also necessary, and all these are in course of construction, being mammoth steel affairs. 4

Completion of all of the improvements on the line was expected to take another year.

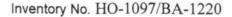
Blasting at Ilchester resulted in a personal injury law suit by Stephen Kerger, who claimed to have been hit by flying debris. This proved less of a problem for the railroad than a strike in March 1903 by the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers against the American Bridge Company of New York. American Bridge was the builder of the Ilchester span. They refused to pay workers more than \$3 per day, but the wage scale for structural workers called for \$3.50 per day, soon to be

^{4 &}quot;Tunnels under the Hills," Baltimore Sun, 5 May 1902, p. 9.



² "Improving the B. and O.," *Baltimore Sun*, 9 February 1903, p. 12.

³ "Railroad Betterments," *Baltimore Sun*, 28 February 1901, p. 9. "Large Force of Men at Work on the Ilchester Tunnel," *Baltimore Sun*, 1 April 1901, p. 8.





Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

raised to \$4.00. This was apparently part of a larger movement within the building trades in general regarding wages and the recognition of their unions. Though the workers walked off the Ilchester job, a temporary agreement was reached and the bridge was completed in April 1903. Work on the tunnel seems to have continued through this period, and one laborer, 32-year-old William O'Hara of Scranton, Pennsylvania, was killed by falling rock while working in the tunnel in June 1903. It is not known when the tunnel was completed, but the brick facing of the western opening has the date 1903. ⁵

The bridge has a single-span Pratt through truss over the river and a plate girder pony truss over Ilchester road, with a raised siding on the north side of the western approach that was probably designed as a coal unloading ramp.



⁵ "Stone from Blast Hit Him," *Baltimore Sun*, 12 September 1902, p. 8. "Likely to Affect Baltimore," *Baltimore Sun*, 7 March 1903, p. 1. "Ironworkers go Out," *Baltimore Sun*, 10 March 1903, p. 12. "Strike Still Threatens," *Baltimore Sun*, 21 April 1903, p. 7. "Caught under fall of Rock," *Baltimore Sun*, 9 June 1903, p. 7.



See footnotes

10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of surveyed property _ Acreage of historical setting	unknown unknown		
Quadrangle name	Ellicott City	Quadrangle scale:	1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of parallel lines 30 feet north and south of the center line of the tracks, and parallel lines 100 feet east of and 200 feet west of the center line of the river, which encompasses all of the historic structures at the site.



name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	September 2012
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

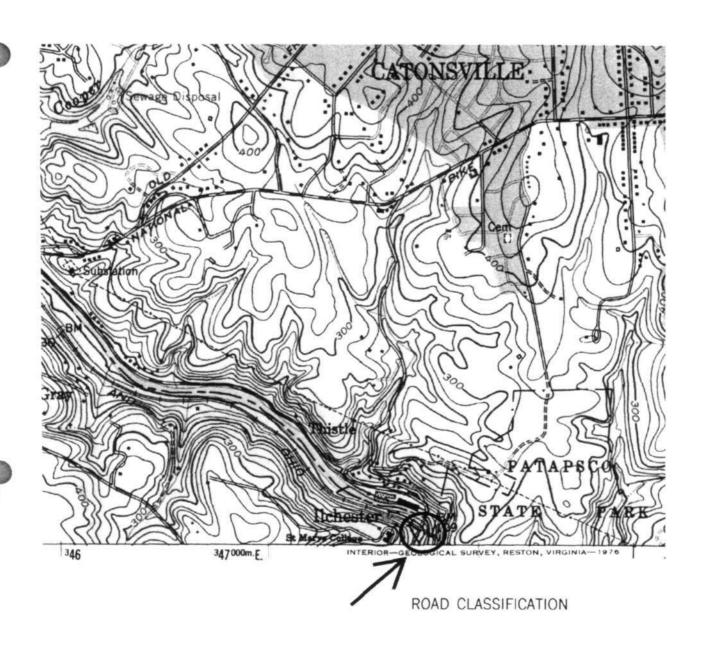
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600





HO-1097/BA-1220 Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge B. & O. Railroad over Patapsco River and Ilchester Road Ellicott City quad

HO-1097 /BA-1220 Ilchester B. & O. Railroad Bridge B. & O. Railroad over Patapsco River and Ilchester Road Howard County, Maryland Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera Epson Premium paper Epson Photo Black UltraChrome ink cartridge

HO-1097_2012-05-08_01 Pratt truss from north

HO-1097_2012-05-08_02 Plate girder and Pratt truss from west





HO-1097 / BA-1220
Ilchester B.+O. Railroad Bridge
B.+O. Railroad over Patapseo River and Ilchester Rad
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short
2012-05-08
MD SHPO
Pratt truss from north

HO-10971 / BA-1220

Ilchester B.+O. Railroad Bridge
B.+O. Railroad over Patapeco River and Ilchester
Read

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2012-05-08

MD SHPO

Plate girder and Pratt truss from west

2072

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

NAME				
HISTORIC				
ILCHESTER	R BRIDGE & TUNNEL			
AND/OR COMMON	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
LOCATION	I			
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
Ilchester	_X	VICINITY OF		
Maryland			COUNTY Baltimore	
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
X OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X YES RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	XTRANSPORTATION
		YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIALMILITARY	XTRANSPORTATIONOTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY	_NO	MILITARY	
OWNER OF	PROPERTY	_NO		
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

_EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

_UNALTERED

X.ORIGINAL SITE

_XGOOD

__RUINS

__MOVED

DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"East side of Patapsco River running SE from Ilchester. NW portal: Ellicott City. Together with a Pratt through-truss bridge, the Ilchester Tunnel replaces the remaining part of the Patterson Viaduct and a Bollman truss bridge when the B & O was realigned."

¹See Bibliographical References section.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	15
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
_1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
_1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	XTRANSPORTATION
X1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES 1903

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Engineering Record Catalog: 1976 (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office), pps. 44-45.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _ UTM Reference: 18.347820.4345920 VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE COUNTY STATE COUNTY I FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Mark R. Edwards, Historic Sites Survey Coordinator ORGANIZATION May 17, 1978 Maryland Historical Trust TELEPHONE 269-2438

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

21 State Circle, Shaw House

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

Maryland

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

THE RESERVE THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.				
NAME				
HISTORIC				
	ridge and Tunnell			
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
Crosses the	Patapsco in the	Park from Howard	County to Bal	timore Coun
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	
at Ilchester	<u> </u>	VICINITY OF		
STATE			COUNTY	
Maryland			Baltimore	
CLASSIFICA	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
X.STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
_OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	XTRANSPORTATION
		Xno	MILITARY	_OTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY			
NAME				
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STREET & NUMBER	-			
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Baltimore		VICINITY OF	Maryland	
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STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESEN'				
STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESEN' TITLE			STATE STATE ATECOUNTYLOCAL	

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1220

CONDITION

__DETERI

__GOOD

XEXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

XUNALTERED __ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X_ORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

West to East: Riveted plate pony, 4-panel Pratt through truss with pinned bottom chords and brick faced arch tunnel. Brick panel above portal has brick logo,

"10 - Ilchester - 03"

PERIOD	A	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
_PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
_1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	ART	X_ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	XTRANSPORTATION
X_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT American Bridge Co., N.Y.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1902-03 to replace the Patterson viaduct when the RR line was improved, its alignment straightened, by putting it through the hill in a tunnel (the line which crossed the Patterson viaduct went around the hill). Changes in technology allowed the construction of the tunnel, which could accommodate two tracks, as well as a much larger bridge with a greater load-carrying capacity than its prececessor. The line is still functioning, and the bridge and tunnel illustrate part of the evolution of the Patapsco valley as an industrial corridor. (See Patterson Viaduct - NR)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

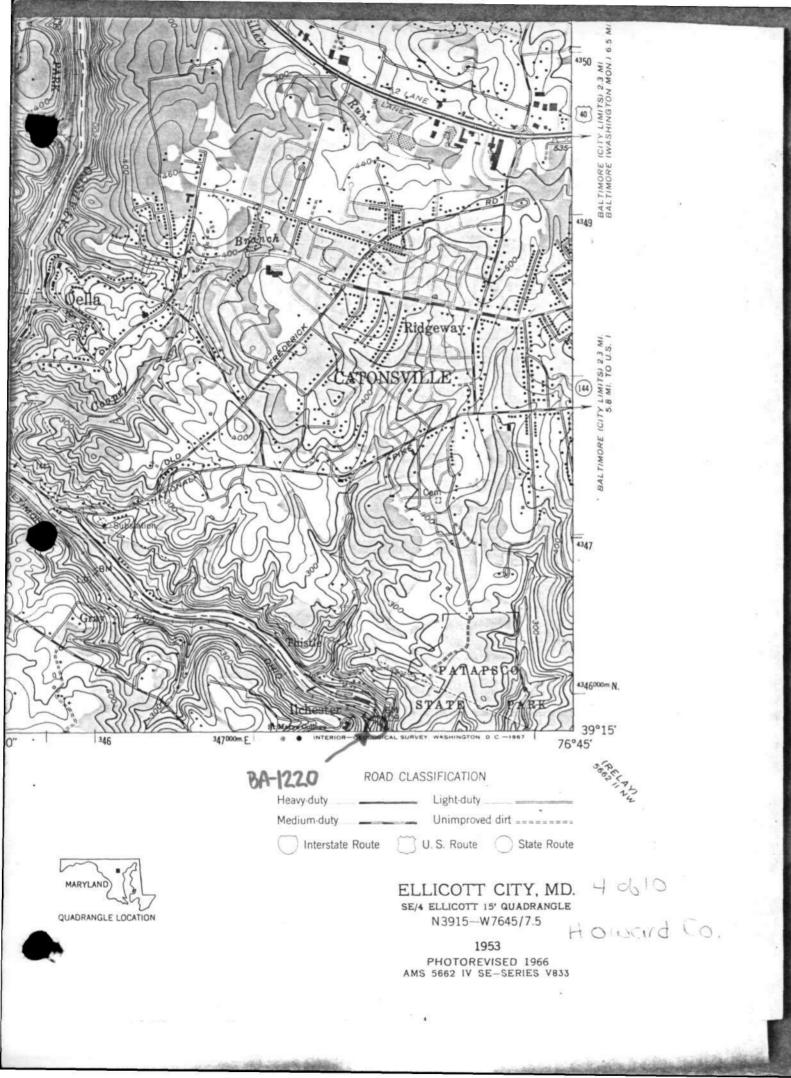
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF	NECESSARY
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
VERBAL BOONDARY DESCRIPTION	
8.3	9 9
	8
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROF	PERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY
11 FORM PREPARED BY	
NAME / TITLE	Team
John D. Hnedak, Historic Sites	Survey/Captain
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Maryland Historical Trust	1978-79
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
21 State Circle	269-2438
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Annapolis	Maryland

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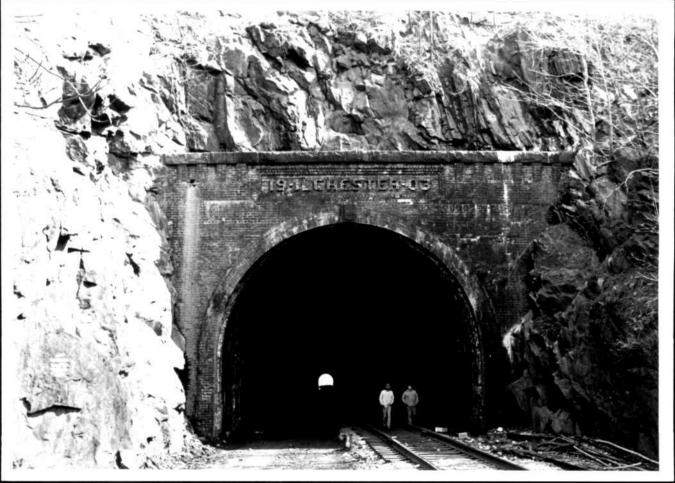






LICHESTER BRIDGE - TUILLIEL BA -1574 1220 FROM SOUTH (DOWNSTREAM)

MARCH 1979 HOT



ILEHESTER BRIDGE-TULINEL
WEST PORTAL
1220
BA-1574

JDH MARCH 1979



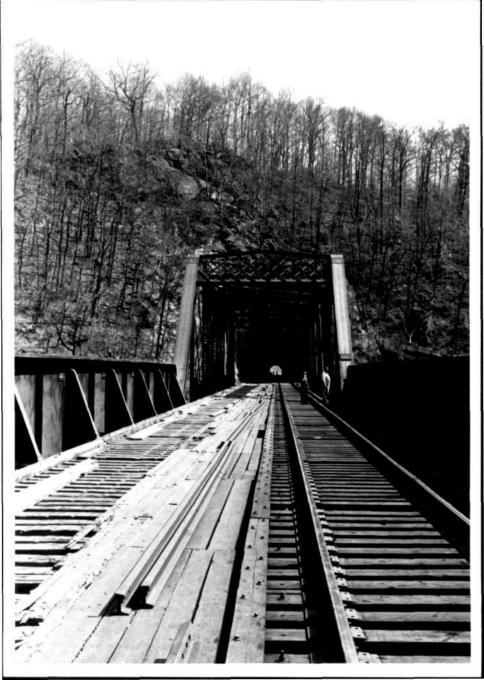
Jechester Bridge-Junnel
BA-1574 1220
DETAIL, RIVETED SOINT 1
3 PINI CONNECTION UP
JOH
MARCH 1979



ILCHESTER BRIDGE/TUNNEL

BA 1574 1220
VIEW OF PATTERSON VIADUCT
(SOUTH)

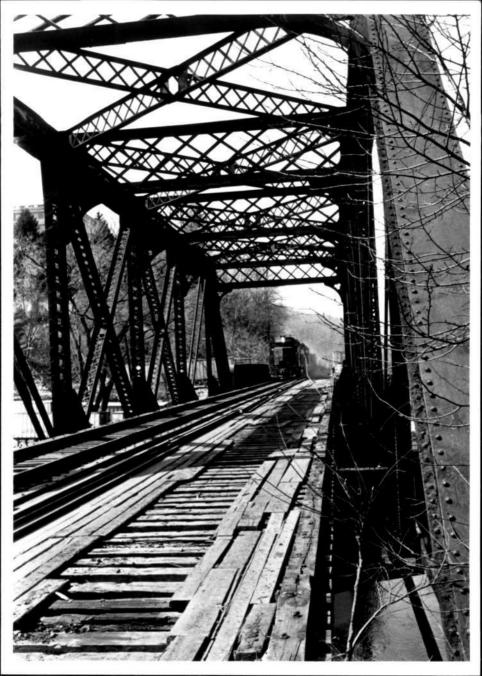
MARCH 1979



THEOM WEST BARGE/TUNNEL BA-1594

JDH

MARCH 1979



ILCHESTER BRIDGE-TUNNEL BA -1574 1220 LOOKING WEST FROM PORTAL MARCH 1979 JDH